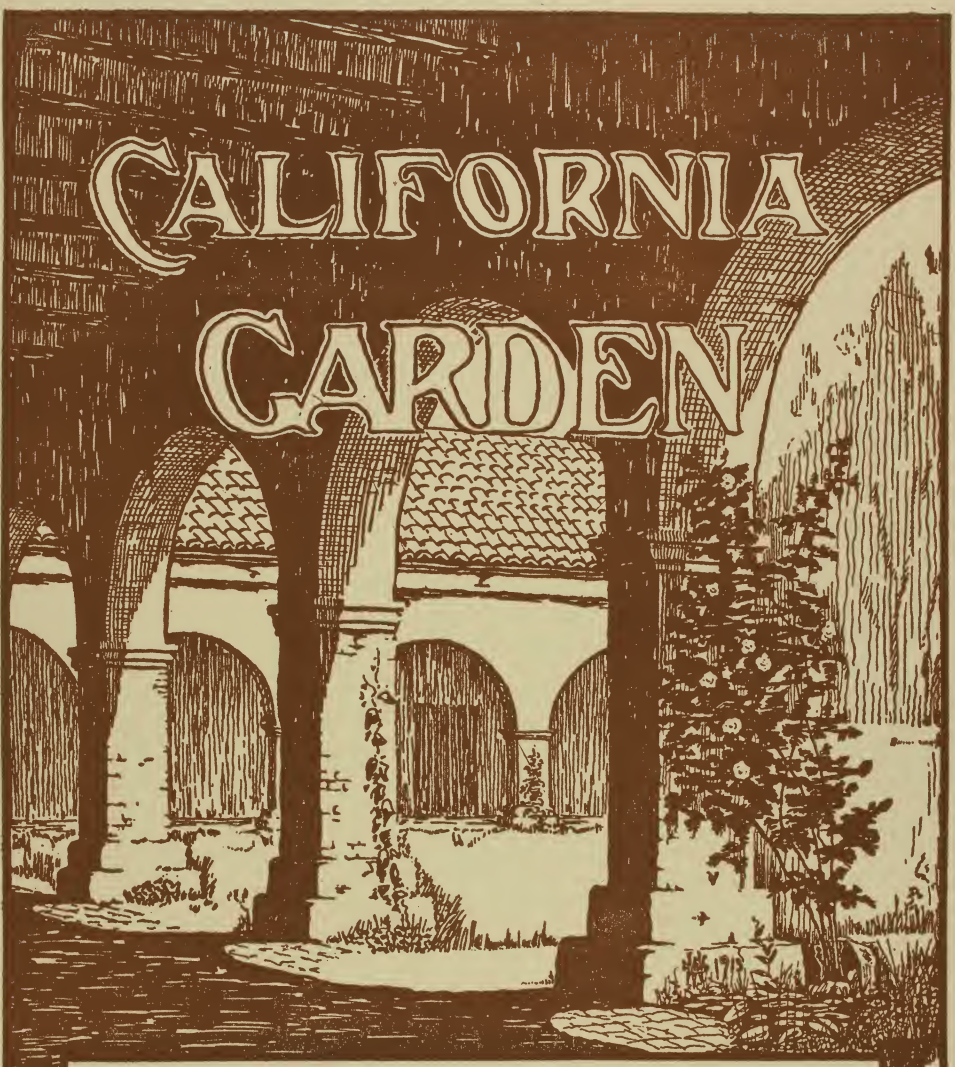
# CALIFORNIA GARDEN



IN THIS NUMBER

FALL FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

THE MADAME DE MARE LECTURE

PLANTS FOR THE ROCK GARDEN
By R. Alice Drought

OCTOBER, 1930 TEN CENTS

PLANT NOW! HARRIS QUALITY SEEDS of Calendula, Cineraria, Hollyhocks, Larkspur, Nemesia, Pansies, Schizanthus, Snapdragons, Stocks, Fox Glove, Gaillardia, Delphinium, Primula, Cyclamen and Sweet Peas, etc.

913 Seventh St.
Between Broadway and E Streets

HARRIS
SEED COMPANY

840 Market St.
Between Eighth and Ninth Streets

Rosecroft - Begonia - Gardens
SILVERGATE AVENUE, POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA

AGGELER & MUSSER of Los Angeles have taken the exclusive agency for our BEGONIA SEEDS, but our stock of PLANTS at Point Loma offers the best selection ever.

ALFRED D. ROBINSON ANNIE C. ROBINSON
— Proprietors —

The magazine—"California Garden," a practical local guide published monthly for 20 years. Subscription $1.00 per year.

The official organ of the San Diego Floral Association, now in its 21st year of continuous activities.

All interested in garden matters and civic beautification are invited to join. Dues $1.50 per year. Magazine and Membership combined $2.00 per year. P. O. Box 323, San Diego.

# The California Garden

*Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association*
*One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy*

Vol. 22 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, OCTOBER, 1930 No. 4

# FALL FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

The judges, Peter MacKenzie, Coronado; Frank Shearer, superintendent of parks, Los Angeles, and Joe Klader, Los Angeles, made the following awards:

**Section A—Dahlias. Amateurs**

Best collection of dahlias—Lawrence M. Huey, first, trophy.

Best three blooms, cactus—L. H. Baldwin, first; Mrs. B. Butterfield, second; Mrs. James Byers, third.

Best three blooms, hybrid cactus—F. G. Jackson, first; Mrs. James Byers, second; Mrs. C. L. Pratt, third.

Best three blooms, decorative—L. H. Baldwin, first; F. G. Jackson, second; Henry B. Dodge, third.

Best three blooms, miniature decorative—Mrs. W. H. Hutchings, first; K. L. Baldwin, Jr., second.

Best three blooms, peony—G. L. Baldwin, Jr., first.

Best three blooms, pompon—Mrs. J. D. Goudie, first; Lawrence M. Huey, second; C. L. Baldwin, Jr., third; Henry E. Dodge, special award.

Best three blooms, show—L. H. Baldwin, first; G. L. Baldwin, Jr., second.

Best collection cactus dahlia—Lawrence M. Huey, first, trophy; Mrs. James Byers, second.

Best collection hybrid cactus—Mrs. James Byers, first; Mrs. B. Butterfield, second.

Best collection decorative—Mrs. B. Butterfield.

Best collection pompons—Lawrence M. Huey, first; G. L. Baldwin, Jr., second; Frank Strausser, third.

Most artistic basket of dahlias—G. L. Baldwin, Jr., first, trophy; Mrs. B. Butterfield, second; L. G. Randall, third.

Most artistic arrangement vase or bowl of dahlias—Mrs. James Byers, first, trophy; Mrs. James Byers, second; W. H. Hutchings, third.

Dahlia sweepstakes—Mrs. James Byers, G. L. Baldwin, Jr.

**Section B—Dahlias. Open To All.**

Best keeping dahlia, judged 2 p. m. last day—L. G. Randall.

Best established 3-year-old seedling—A. Adderley, first and second.

Best collection unregistered seedlings—David G. Houston, first; Henry E. Dodge, second; Mrs. B. W. Bryant, third; H. Lodge, special award.

Best 1929 seedling—Mrs. B. W. Bryant, first; David G. Houston, second and third.

Best 1930 seedling—Henry E. Dodge, first; David G. Houston, second; Miller Bushway, third; David G. Houston, special award.

One best bloom exhibited at show—Lawrence Huey, Flaming Meteor trophy.

Most artistic basket of pompons—Frank Strausser, first; H. E. Howell, second.

Best six blooms— G. L. Baldwin, Jr., trophy.

Best six blooms, California productions—G. L. Baldwin, Jr., first, trophy; Lawrence M. Huey, second; L. G. Randall, third.

**Section C—Dahlias. Professionals**

Best general display—H. Lodge, first, trophy; H. E. Howell, second.

Best six blooms—H. Lodge.

Best six blooms, decorative—H. Lodge.

Best six blooms, pompons—H. E. Howell, first; A. Adderley, second; H. Lodge, third.

Best six blooms, show—H. E. Howell.

Best collection, decorative—H. Lodge.

Best collection pompons—H. E. Howell.

Best collection, show—H. E. Howell.

**Section D—Zinnias (Amaeturs)**

Best collection — Frank Strausser, first, trophy; John Hicks, second; Mrs. Harry Nelson, third.

Best three blooms, red or red shade—Mrs. Robert Siebenmann, first; Mrs. Blake, second; Mrs. S. D. Erwine, third.

Best three blooms, pink or pink shades—Mrs. Robert Siebenmann, first and second; Mrs. S. D. Erwine, third.

Best three blooms, orange or orange shades—John Hicks, first; Mrs. C. P. Hatch, second; Mrs. J. D. Goudie, third.

Best three blooms, yellow or yellow shades—Mrs. S. D. Erwine, first; Mrs. Blake, second.

Best three blooms, lavender or lavender shades—Mrs. Blake, first; Mrs. Bert Caughey, second; Mrs. S. D. Erwine, third.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

Best three blooms, any other color—Mrs. Blake, first.

Best three blooms, quill type—Mrs. Dennie Roult, first.

Best 25 blooms, small Mexican—Mrs. H. E. Cooper, first.

Best collection, Lilliput zinnias—Frank Strausser, first.

Best arranged vase or bowl of zinnias—Frank Strausser, first; Mrs. H. E. Cooper, second; Mrs. Robert Morrison, third.

Best arranged basket of zinnias—Mrs. J. J. Flint, first; Mrs. P. C. Hatch, second.

Zinnia sweepstakes—Mrs. Blake.

**Section E—General (Amateurs)**

Best collection asters, double type—Frank Strausser, first, trophy.

Best collection asters, single type—Frank Strausser, first, trophy.

Best arranged vase, bowl or dish of asters—B. Chiera, first; Mrs. C. E. Duvall, second.

Best arranged basket of asters—Mrs. G. Boggs, first.

Aster sweepstakes—Mr. Frank Strausser.

Best arranged basket of flowers—W. H. Hutchings, first, trophy; Mrs. R. G. Sharp, second; Mrs. J. J. Flint, third.

Best arranged vase, bowl or dish—Mrs. Robert Morrison, first, trophy; Mrs. R. G. Sharp, second; Mrs. M. A. Greer, third.

Best display of African Marigolds—Mrs. H. E. Cooper, first.

Best display French Marigolds—Mrs. G. W. Brown, first; Mr. and Mrs. E. Thelen, second.

Best display of single Petunias—Mrs. C. E. Duvall, first; Mrs. H. E. Cooper, second.

Best display of double Petunias—Mrs. Hans Peters, first; Mrs. J. D. Goudie, second.

Best collection of perennials—Mrs. Robert Morrison, first, trophy.

Best collection of annuals—Mrs. G. W. Brown, first, trophy.

Best display any other flower not otherwise classified—Mrs. H. E. Cooper, first; Mrs. G. H. Hinrichs, second; Mrs. G. W. Brown, third. Alcott W. Bronson, special award.

Best collection of potted Tuberous Begonias—H. C. Morgan.

Best one specimen potted Tuberous Begonias—H. C. Morgan.

Best collection Rex Begonias—Mrs. Hans Peters, first, trophy; Mrs. H. C. Dunning, second.

Best decorative house plant—Mrs. H. E. Cooper.

Best flowering vine—Mrs. Hans Peters, first; Mr. and Mrs. E. Thelen, second; Mr. and Mrs. E. Thelen, third.

Best collection cut sprays, flowering trees or shrubs—Mr. and Mrs. E. Thelen, first; Mrs. H. E. Cooper, second; Mrs. G. W. Brown, third.

Best collection berried shrubs—Mrs. H. E. Cooper, first.

Best new flower or plant not before exhibited—Frank Strausser, first.

Best exhibit of water plants—Mrs. P. C. Hatch, first.

Best dining table decoration—Mrs. H. C. Dunning, first, trophy; Mrs. Kady, second; Mrs. W. H. Wilson, third.

**Section F—General. Open To All**

Best specimen Rex Begonia, San Diego seedling—Mrs. Hans Peters.

Best general exhibit of Begonias—A. Pisani, first and special award.

Best collection of Coleus—August Erbsen, first.

Best specimen Maidenhair fern—Mrs. H. C. Dunning, first; Rosecourt Floral Co., second; Frank Strausser, third; Josephine Yoch Nursery, special award.

Best specimen fern other than Maidenhair—Mrs. H. C. Dunning, first; Mrs. H. E. Cooper, second.

Best collection cut ferns—Josephine Yoch Nursery, first and special.

Best fern hanging basket—Rosecourt Floral Co.

Best hanging basket other than fern—K. H. Kellogg, first; K. H. Kellogg, second; K. H. Kellogg, third; Mrs. H. C. Dunning,, special award.

Best exhibit of summer flowering lilies—Mrs. Robert Morrison, first; Mrs. G. W. Brown, second.

Best collection of potted fuchsias—K. O. Sessions, first.

Best display of cacti—McCabe Cactus Garden, first.

Best display of succulents—Josephine Yoch Nursery, first.

Best display of small rock garden—Fred H. Wylie, first; W. H. Hutchings, special award.

Best dish of growing succulents and cacti—Josephine Yoch Nursery, first; Knickerbakker Nursery, second; Knickerbakker, Nursery, third.

**Section G—General. Professionals**

Best collection of decorative plants and flowers—Rosecourt Floral Co., first, trophy; A. Pisani, second.

Best new plant or flower not exhibited before—Josephine Yoch Nursery, special award; Helen McCabe, special award.

Best collection of zinnias—H. Lodge, first.

Best collection of asters—David G. Houston, first; H. Lodge, second.

Best arranged basket of flowers—Rosecourt Floral Co., first, trophy; Marguerite Fowler Shop, second; Mission Florists, third.

Best exhibit of water lilies—Mrs. W. S. Thomas.

Special awards were bestowed upon—Natural History Museum for display of wild flowers; Park Department for general display of

dahlias; Erskine Campbell for dahlias; W. H. Hutchings, Miss K. O. Sessions, lily pond.

### FINANCIAL REPORT OF FALL FLOWER SHOW, SEPT. 6 AND 7, 1930

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Gate Receipts | | $476.34 |
| Disbursements: | | |
| Certificates | $18.50 | |
| Advertising | 34.50 | |
| Premium Lists | 8.75 | |
| Entry Cards | 5.88 | |
| Printing | 7.17 | |
| Supplies | 21.35 | |
| Rent of Building | 50.00 | |
| Laundry | 6.50 | |
| Publicity | 20.00 | |
| Clerk's Supplies | 5.80 | |
| Trophies | 83.05 | |
| Labor | 24.75 | |
| Mailing Tubes | 3.37 | |
| Postage | 1.35 | |
| Total | | 290.97 |
| Net Proceeds | | $185.37 |

Signed: General Chairman, Mary A. Greer.
Treasurer, John Bakkers.
Secretary; Winifred Sinclair.

### ROCK GARDEN AND ALPINE PLANTS
**By Henry Correvon**

(The Macmillan Co., 1930; $6.00)

Rock gardening has gained enormous increase in the number of its devotees in this country in recent years, yet thoroughgoing American books on the subject are not many. Perhaps this comprehensive new volume from the pen of M. Correvon, the noted Swiss exponent of the art, should not be termed an American book, but as it was penned for the American public, brought out by a New York publishing house, pays special attention to our native plants, is full of the author's impressions of his American experiences, and is edited by our own Leonard Barron, the classification appears pardonable.

A somewhat informal or discursive treatment is adopted for the first part of the book in which the author chats with us as fancy takes him concerning gardens he has visited, the conditions under which montane plants are found in nature and what these signify in guiding toward a rational horticultural treatment, conservation, and the construction of wall and rock gardens. There is a curious chapter on the possibility in arid countries of growing alpine plants in sphagnum, which should incite some of the experimentally minded among us to attack this new and no doubt entertaining field from the narrowly Californian viewpoint. Chapters devoted respectively to ferns, terrestrial orchids, and hardy cacti lead to Chapter XII which comprises more than the final two-thirds of the book and forms essentially a catalogue of Alpine plants, arranged alphabetically by genera, and including brief comments and cultural notes upon each group. The discussion of the Sempervivums here is particularly full and valuable.

Unlike certain other writers M. Correvon finds that alpine plants transplant best when in the dormant state. He is enraptured by many of our natives, notably the western Pentstemons, the eastern Phloxes, and the demure bluets of New England. He likewise salutes such divers institutions of ours as the scheme of National Park reservations, the Arnold Arboretum, and the American woman. Over our billboards, telephone poles, and plant quarantines he manifests less enthusiasm.

Concerning so useful a work we do not wish to be understood as captious in wishing that the publishers had not let pass quite so many mis-spelled names, as well as certain minor slips,—e.g., "in the Rockies (especially in Oregon),"—which, though natural enough on the part of a foreign visitor, would better have been corrected in a book of this nature.

S. S. B.

### FERTILIZERS AND SOILS DISCUSSED IN NEW CIRCULAR

Soil and plants are altogether too complex to permit of any easy or quick method of determining the best method of soil treatment, says Dr. D. R. Hoagland, professor of plant nutrition in the University of California College of Agriculture, in a circular just published at the university. This circular, No. 217, is titled, "Fertilizer Problems and Analysis of Soils in California." It may be obtained free from the College of Agriculture at Berkeley.

"There must be a patient accumulation of knowledge," says Dr. Hoagland, "gained in several ways: by continued investigation on basic relations which enter into soil problems everywhere; by further practical observation and experience; and by very carefully conducted and long continued local field tests or experiments, accompanied when necessary by special types of chemical and physiological studies.

"Immediate practical steps to be taken cannot be decided upon without reference to local conditions. Those who desire to avail themselves of the services of the College of Agriculture should, in the first instance, consult the farm advisor of their county, or an extension specialist."

Other circulars and information on the subject are available at the College of Agriculture, or in the office of the local farm advisor.

### THE MADAME DE MARE LECTURE

Members and friends of the San Diego Floral Association were given an unusual pleasure Tuesday evening, September 30th, in the lecture of Madame Marie de Mare, official lecturer for the Federation de l' Alliance Francaise. Madame de Mare, who besides being a lecturer is an editor and writer, spoke on French Gardens, Old and New, illustrating her charming talk with slides, many of them in natural color and depicting bits of French gardens of exquisite beauty. The autochrome slides used were made especially for Madame de Mare by the French government and sent to her here in this country.

Madame de Mare, a Parisian by birth, lectures on more than a score of subjects having to do with French art, history, literature, poetry, etc., and has recently given a number of her lectures in and around San Diego. The Floral Association was most fortunate in being able to arrange for the one on French gardens, a subject with which Madame de Mare is thoroughly familiar and evidently one that is very close to her. She is a speaker of exceptional ease and grace, and kept her large audience in rapt attention from her opening sentence to the close. Every seat in the Floral Building was occupied and many chairs had to be brought in.

The speaker opened her lecture with the statement that the French people have always been garden lovers, and asked that we consider the whole of France as one large garden. Illustrating the universal love of the French, rich and poor alike, for gardens, she called attention to the small gardens of workmen along the railroad tracks, where otherwise waste land was turned into most attractive vegetable and flower plots. France is a relatively small country, she said, which also accounts for her people making intensive use of every available inch of land. No country in the world, said Madame de Mare, has as many land owners in proportion to its population, as has France. This explains, too, the presence of so many individual gardens.

Madame de Mare remarked that Americans often complained of the fences and walls in France, which shut from public view many of the beautiful gardens. With love of gardens in France, she explained, is associated privacy. To the French the garden is a part of the home, and a private garden is a private part of the home. Walls covered with vines and other foliage add to the beauty of the villages and country streets, she asserted, even if they do hide the gardens behind.

A typical French village and an average French garden of good size was pictured by the speaker. Hilly streets through the village, a narrow road lined on both sides with stone walls, avenues of gorgeous old trees, the iron gate leading into the Chateau grounds, the lawn and flower gardens spread out in front of the Chateau, the lawn, shape of formal trees, gardens and Chateau itself made to harmonize in every particular, all these we were made to see clearly by Madame de Mare. A gentle slope descending in another direction, beautifully terraced, shrubbery hiding stables or garage and other outbuildings, the vegetable gardens laid out as carefully and methodically as the flower gardens. Below or at one side are the forcing trays and hot houses and in the lower part of the estate, grass and trees are allowed to grow naturally.

The speaker traced the beginning of gardens in France, with the Castle or Chateau necessarily built on an eminence for defensive purposes. Walls were built around the buildings for further protection and within the enclosures vegetable gardens were planted to supply food for the defenders. Other walls were gradually built further out, enclosing other spaces for additional gardens, pasture and fields. Little by little as women became more important, they insisted on flower gardens. By the time of the Renaissance, flower gardens had developed to a remarkable degree and vegetable plots were being placed further away from the Chateau.

Gardens, because of the opportunity given therein for social intercourse, had their part in developing the social life of the French people. Many rare seeds and plants were brought into France from the Orient during the period of garden building, particularly during the Crusades. Under the reign of Francis I there was a tremendous impetus in building, and of course this meant more gardens. During that period gardens followed the more or less severely geometrcial design of the buildings. After a time this design became somewhat tedious but later was taken up again by the Modernists.

The design of French gardens was modified and carried out to perfection under Louis XIV. The famous garden of Fontainebleau was built during this period. Many famous novels have had their origin and development in the gardens of that period. During the 18th century the design of French gardens reached utmost perfection, according to Madame de Mare, and were widely copied everywhere. Garden builders now made wide use of curves, slopes, natural bends, rocks, etc.

An interesting story of the origin of the great King's Garden or Botanical Garden of Paris, was told by Mme. de Mare. It seems that the physician of Louis XIII not being able to secure needed medicinal herbs from the apothecary shops, obtained a grant of land for the purpose of growing them himself. This plot of ground was later turned into what is

now the present Paris Botanical Garden.

Following the historical part of the lecture, Madame de Mare gave a very interesting description of the gardens of several famous Frenchmen, these being beautifully illustrated with autochrome slides. Without doubt these were among the most beautiful ever shown in San Diego.

President Mrs. Mary A. Greer presided over the meeting with her usual grace and dignity. The thanks of the Association are due to Mr. Clinton G. Abbott who furnished and operated the lantern for the lecture.

ROBT. R. McLEAN.

---

## GROWING PALM SEEDS IS A REAL INDUSTRY

**Major Geo. R. Bowers**

There's a new industry in Southern California—not new, either, but one whose growth has been so gradual that its importance has not been noticed by either press or public. Many exotic palms grow luxuriantly here, but only nurserymen and a few others are aware that we haven't been producing the seed for the great bulk of the stock. Now we're getting around to that part of the business and it's timely, for nurserymen are stirred because there is some danger that the supply of Kentia palm seeds from abroad may be cut off.

Lord Howe Island is a tiny dot in the South Pacific, at least on the maps, with only 3500 acres on it. On this tiny island, which is one of the Society group of the Tahiti Archipelago, the Kentia palm apparently originated and horticulturists of the world have been depending on it for the seed. A small group of settlers, not much more than 100 of them, find a livelihood in collecting and shipping Kentia palm seeds to Europe and America. It is a unique industry, but eventually it is apt to move "bag and baggage" to Southern California where thousands of Kentis are growing outdoors and where those old enough are producing seed.

Society in every civilized city of the world demands these palms for decorative purposes. They are used in hotel corridors, on banquet tables and for gala occasions—in Tokio, Manila, Singapore, Suez, Cairo, Paris, Barcelona, Berlin, London, New York and Los Angeles. Florists all over Europe and America keep large stocks of Kentias on hand to meet the constant demand and these dainty little palms in pots and tubs give a freshness and grace to every occasion.

Lord Howe Island has four native species of palms, but the two familiar to us are Kentia balmoreana, with curved leaves and erect pinnae, and Kentia foresteriana, with straight leaves and flat, drooping pinnae. Right now it is reported that rats, accidentally introduced on the island by ships, are threatening to destroy the seed supply there, and unless Southland Kentia seed becomes available great losses may ensue, for great fortunes are invested in greenhouses and equipment solely for the development of Kentia. Some of the nurseries are said to use as much as 75 bushels of Kentia seed annually.

A Kentia planted outdoor in Southern California requires ten to fifteen seasons of growth before it reaches the fruiting stage. It grows well from Santa Barbara south along the coast and there should be no difficulty in developing this seed industry adequately in the future.

There are many palm nurseries in Southern California where Kentia seedlings all grown from seed collected off Kentia for shipment to Atlantic coast markets. One of the largest palm nurseries in the world is at Montebello. In San Diego county one nurseryman keeps a stock of 20,000 seedlings all grown from seed collected off Kentia growing in gardens and on lawns of Coronado and San Diego. An acre of Kentias planted twenty years ago would make the owner a handsome income now.

Many other decorative palms grow and fruit in California and some of them are sometimes mistaken for Kentias—for instance the Leroma and the Archontophoenix, both natives of Australia. Eora sapida is a New Zealand palm that fruits here, and the Canary Island date palm, Phoenix canariensis, thrives in Southern California. Cocos plumosa, a common curb ornament, is a native of Southern Brazil and grows well from Santa Barbara south along the coast. Erythea edulis, a native of Guadaloupe Island near Lower California, has habits somewhat similar to the Kentia's.

California has but one native palm, Washingtonia filifera, which will grow near the coast but does its best in its native habitat, the Colorado desert. Washingtonia robusto, a native of Lower California, resembles its sister farther north and seems to do better under coastal conditions.

---

## NEW MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBERS FOR OCTOBER

E. F. Walker, San Diego.
Mrs. M. Weber, Chula Vista.
Mrs. Jennie Peck, San Diego.
O. W. Bronson, San Diego.
Nelson W. Janney, San Diego.
F. G. Jackson, San Diego.
Otto Heide, San Diego.
Mrs. Philip S. Chancellor, Santa Barbara.
Mrs. John S. Alley, Berkeley.
Mrs. F. H. Wilcomb, Ventura.
William Ludtke, Chicago, Ill.
H. A. Astlett, New Jersey.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

# The California Garden

Editor
Silas B. Osborn

Associate Editors
John Bakkers
Walter S. Merrill

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

## The San Diego Floral Association

P. O. Box 323 San Diego, Cal.

Main Office, San Diego, California



OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Mrs. Mary A. Greer, President
Mr. Walter Birch, Vice-President
Mr. John Bakkers, Treasurer
Miss Alice Halliday
Mrs. Robt. Morrison
Mr. Robt. R. McLean
Miss K. O. Sessions
Miss Winifred Sinclair, Secretary.
Phone, Bayview 0202.



Member
California Rose Society, American Gladioli Society, American Iris Society

Entered as second-class matter December 8, 1910, at the Post office at Point Loma, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

California Garden is on the list of publications authorized by the San Diego Retail Merchants Association.



MONTHLY ADVERTISING RATES

One Page ----------$15.00 Half Page, ----------$7.50
Quarter Page--------- 3.75 Eighth Page ---------- 2.00
Advertising Copy should be in by the 1st of each Month



Subscription, $1.00 per year



McKELVEY'S
Elite Printing Co. 851 2nd. St., San Diego


## EDITORIAL

### A. D. ROBINSON LECTURES ON BEGONIAS AT GROSSMONT HIGH SCHOOL NIGHT FLORICULTURAL CLASS

On Thursday evening, the 25th of September, the Floricultural class of the Grossmont "Hi" Night School was given a treat in the person of Mr. A. D. Robinson, learned begonia specialist of Rosecroft Begonia Gardens, Pt. Loma. Mr. Robinson displayed wonderful specimens of cut tuberous begonia blooms as well as a variety of types of begonia plants for illustrative purposes. Over fifty persons who were on hand to hear him were held spellbound for over two hours by a humorous, clever and thorough presentation of the subject, "Begonias and their Culture." The writer is confidently awaiting the mushrooming forth of lathhouses in La Mesa to house begonias and kindred lathhouse subjects. Any further comment would be superflous. EDITOR.

### FLORICULTURE COURSE AT NIGHT SCHOOL

At the instigation of several prominent residents, the Grossmont Union High School has included a course in floriculture in their regular night school schedule. The interest shown has been surprisingly gratifying. These classes are held on Tuesday in El Cajon and on Thursday in La Mesa. Approximately eighty have signed up in La Mesa and about fifty in El Cajon. The attendance has been about two-thirds of the registration. The attendance in the floriculture class has exceeded all other classes with the one exception of the poultry class. But considering the fact that the poultry class is held in the high school building and includes the entire school district while floricultural classes are held in both El Cajon and La Mesa, the aggregate weekly attendance exceeds all other courses. Undoubtedly other schools and districts will follow the lead of the Grossmont Union High School if such fine attendance continues throughout the course.

We sincerely trust that interest in night school courses of this nature will increase by leaps and bounds and result in keener enjoyment and fuller appreciation of home gardens, or rather garden homes. EDITOR.

### OCTOBER MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the San Diego Floral Association will be held in the Floral Building, Balboa Park, on Tuesday, October 21st, at 7:30 p. m. The speaker will be Thos. F. McLoughlin of Encinitas, who will have for his topic, "Bulbs and their Culture." After the meeting there will be an exchange of bulbous plants and bulbs.

### FUCHSIAS

The small display at the late flower show attracted many and questions were numerous. Potted plants on display is the very best way to exhibit fuchsias. It is hoped that each flower show henceforth will have a generous showing.

The September Sunset Magazine has a good article on the Fuchsia by Sydney B. Mitchell and is well worth reading and saving, if possible, for a "Fuchsia Scrapbook." A report of the fuchsia display at the San Leandro flower show will be of much interest to us.

A Mr. A. Pontsford, connected with the Kew Gardens, England, for many years, is now a resident of San Diego and attended the flower show. He called every fuchsia on display by their name, as cultivated at Kew. So it is possible that we will soon have the fuchsia names put in order by him.

Mr. Middlebrook brought back two named samples from his San Francisco trip and met Mr. Sydney Mitchell at the big flower show at San Leandro.

K. O. SESSIONS.

### OCTOBER IN THE GARDEN

With the coming of cooler weather the urge to make ready the winter flower garden promptly seizes us.

What to plant? Shall it be the same things we had last year, or shall we branch out a little and have at least one thing we never had before? The latter, by all means.

Stocks and snaps, of course, we must have. The garden is never complete without them. And most of us want sweet peas. Stock and snap planting is in order for the next two months, but remember that the sooner the young plants are in the ground, the sooner will your garden show bloom, and the early spring flowers are the ones that give the greatest pleasure. Peas should be in the ground and growing now to insure Chirstmas bloom.

This year why not try some of the dwarf snapdragons for your borders? They make a delightfully compact and sturdy bush about ten inches high and while the flower stalks will not be as long as on the giant type, they will be quite as lovely in their own way. They also make a charming pot subject, and I need not suggest to you the uses to which you might put a few nice pots of blooming plants, grown in your own lath house.

Before leaving the subject of snapdragons, let me offer this suggestion, gleaned from a famous grower of snaps. Do not pinch back the plants at the tips until the stalks have run up to flower. When the first buds appear, snip them off. This pinching induces generous side growth and insures a sturdy plant, but if the pinching is done prior to the forming of the first buds, many of the new shoots will come blind.

Then there is the pansy, without which no garden is really finished. Do not bother with inferior strains of pansy plants. The best ones cost no more—well, perhaps a little more—and they are so much more worth your while. The new and better pansies are much larger as to bloom, and what is vastly more important, the colorings are more glorious every year. Here, too, we have the strain suited to pot culture. A new departure in the pansy world, and very pleasing.

Petunias, too, should be in your garden. Especially the newer varieties. They come large and small, single and double, frilled and fringed, and in every color imaginable. Some of the improved petunias retain all the old time fragrance that made the plant a favorite when it was little more than a weed in appearance, but many of the most gorgeous types are devoid of any fragrance. In considering petunias for your garden, remember that it is one of the most valuable cutting subjects you might grow. Snipped off close to the base of the plant, a dozen of them arranged loosely, but correctly, in a bowl of water, they will grow in the water and as the old flowers fade, new ones will take their places. I have seen them in good condition two weeks from the time they were cut.

Nemesia should be planted freely. It is one of the easiest grown and loveliest annuals we have, and by sowing spring and fall may be had blooming the year around.

Have you a spot in your garden where nothing seems to do well? Plant some Arabis, or Rock Cress. It grows low, spreads nicely, blooms over a long period in winter and spring, and will withstand the poorest of soil and any amount of heat and drought. It should be a boon to many of our gardens.

MRS. HOWARD W. JOHNSON.

---

### SEEDING WATER LILIES

We lately suggested one might have an interesting time raising seedling water lilies. I had tried the experiment in Illinois and found the seed required 21 days to germinate, although one writer says " three to seven weeks." But we can now tell a better story. I planted seed of the Blue Triumph August 26 and on September 11 I was surprised and delighted to see small green leaves showing. The momentous question now is, shall we ascribe the quick germination to California climate, or to the fact that the seed was fresh—strictly so—it was planted the same day the seed pod burst. The good lilies usually have only one or two dozen seeds in a pod which are fertile. The Dauben will give many dozen but the flower of this is much inferior. Hardy lilies seldom seed, but why should they, when they increase so rapidly from root multiplication. In varieties, where the root diversion is slow, the price is high accordingly, as with Mrs. Richmond, that indescribably beautiful pink. Even water lilies cannot escape the general law of supply and demand. In their native countries, where they grow luxuriantly and seed bountifully, both roots and seed were used as food. Some day we will experiment a little in this field and perhaps give you a recipe for lily seed cookies and ground lily root cake. The Japanese are still using the large tubers of the Lotus as food, boiled and eaten like potatoes. One native of Japan told me the white variety was best, but I hope it has a better flavor than the Dasheen which I purchased in Alabama and raised religiously according to instructions in my Illinois garden. Oh, yes, the leaves were beautiful, but sawdust is much preferable to the root as a food. An accommodating friend once told me the Dahlia root was good food. We tried it, but only once. Hereafter I stick close to my old friend—the good old Irish tubers.

MRS. W. S. THOMAS.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

### THE 25TH FALL FLOWER SHOW

This year the flowers again bloomed bountifully and made a display of quality that was very gratifying. There were not as many exhibitors as in previous years, however, and each year we expect more.

The display of native shrubs was the best ever made—collected by Miss Fidelia Woodcock on the Laguna Mountains and adjacent sections. The Triogonums were very interesting and beautiful, one in particular, which was out of bloom but its mass of brown flower stems like a crystalized cobweb bouquet so fine and compact.

Miss Josephine Yoch, of Encinitas, made an excellent display of cut Ferns. Also a novel Dracaena rooted in shallow pans of water and a small plant of the famous Davidia of China, known as the Dove tree, the first plant to come to San Diego. Let us hope it will be a success.

For the first time the South African Silver tree was on display and henceforth that plant should be seen at both the Spring and Fall Shows. Southern California is the only place it can be grown outside of its native locality, the top and sides of Table Mountain, Cape of Good Hope.

The Water Lily pool with its fine background of ornamental plants, maidenhair and other ferns, was a real gem, arranged by the Balboa Park Nursery Department. Also their display of Dahlias seemed more varied than of previous years and quality very fine. This massed group of Zinnias, Marigolds and foliage plants was excellent.

The Rex begonias, three exhibitors, were superb, in wooden hanging baskets and boxes. The first prize for the best San Diego seedling (Miss Sessions by name) was originated by Mr. A. D. Robinson but was grown and exhibited by Mrs. Hans Peters. It was a very superb plant in every way.

The three specimen hanging baskets by Dr. Kellogg of Chula Vista were marvels of beauty and size, especially the variety Nigricans. Each of the exhibitors of these fine Rex begonias, some thirty specimens, by amateurs, the fine results were most encouraging to lath house owners.

Some excellent potted tuberous begonias were in several exhibits. The only Fibrous begonias were shown by the Goldfinch Nursery, large and fine specimen plants in tubs, were well placed. By the same nursery, among general ornamentals, three very superior specimens of that fine Mexican palm Chamaedorea elatior were displayed for the first time. This special palm was seen generously used in a Naples hotel in 1925, at least 80 plants of all sizes about the halls and lobby. It was the best decorated hotel seen that year. We should have this palm for variety in use with the Kentias for interior decorations. This Chamaedorea is sensitive to direct sun, wind and cold and is not so hardy as the Kentias, but is more dwarf and very choice.

The cut Dahlias in the amateur sections were in great variety and of excellent quality, which proves many private owners are doing splendid work. The half dozen seedlings shown from the Erskine Campbell gardens were mammoth in size and superior in form and color. Also their two dozen other named varieties. Two commercial growers of Dahlias exhibited and three exhibits by the nurseries, there should have been many more. Small but interseting displays by the trade should be the plan and not size. Flower shows are so educational that everyone in the horticultural business needs to present some of their stock for the benefit of those attending the flower shows, who are interested in plant life and its flowers.

Mrs. Thomas' exhibit of water plants was an example of a small business display. The cut water lilies showed fine variety. The six water loving plants, grown for foliage effect and especially the "shell plant." The display of the flowers and plant production from leaf growth was very instructive. The entire display was one of the most interesting of the show.

The basket and vase display for cut flowers was beautiful and educational. One vase in particular demanded many questions. A graceful spray of Clematis paniculata trailing down over the sides, and that Artemsia Silver King, filling the vase, arrangement so simple but very artistic. The table decorations were all very modest, though pretty. Small Zinnias and Dahlias were used in several of the center pieces.

A hanging basket of the ornamental strawberry, Fragaria indica, was much admired. The trailing sprays fully five feet long, flowers a bright yellow, but the red fruits are tasteless. This plant makes an excellent ground cover, best in half shade. A tree fern stump with growing ferns and small ornamental plants, was very attractive; a desirable feature for any shady nook, lath house or porch.

A rock garden arrangement about 8x10 feet, including a small pool and a path to it, was the best ever exhibited. It was a fine example adaptable to any garden corner or next to a high wall. Designed and exhibited by F. H. Wiley.

The potted Fuchsia display of about twenty varieties was the beginning of what each year in the future must become a very attractive feature of our shows.

The attendance was up to the average, and these shows are greatly indebted to our able president and her faithful and industrious committee members. Each show is a real big job, produced in a short time.

K. O. SESSIONS.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

# LATH HOUSE MATTERS

**By Alfred D. Robinson**

I have been sauntering through the lathhouse spearing dead leaves and such an occupation leaves a bit of room for thoughts even such as mine to wander carelessly. I take it that this is one of the chief offices of a real garden, to be a place where the mind can escape for a moment or so from the fetters of custom, a place of mental liberty in which it is all right to think inconsequential—nay, even insane things. I speared a leaf that was half yellowed as it tried to hide behind a pot and said, "This is the 28th day of September, the time for leaves to color and fall." The air was balmy, the sun kind, and only the calendar told me that Fall was here, and I wondered where and how the plants keep tab on the seasons. They certainly don't have a sheet of figures under letters that each day gives them appointed tasks and warns them on the 28th that in two more days the month's bills will be due again and the next month's will begin to pile up. I used to have a German teacher who often in the fervor of instruction called me a Cabbage, meaning to cover me with shame as with a garment, and it did at that time, but I have a feeling today that I might be complimented, but that's a garden thought.

At this season I sense a tolerance for things that were downright annoying a few weeks past. Seedling Impatiens have invaded many areas and there are weeds that I hesitate to pull. I think: You will have to come out directly when the Primulas and Pansies and Violets and Cinnerarias are large enough to plant out; why not let you have a bit of self-expression, as the modern educator demands for the naughty boy, and the modern girl grabs for herself? I surprise myself actually enjoying a bit of disorder, smiling at a lanky branch that is brazenly necking with a neighbor plant without reaching for that bit of string in my pocket. I saw the first of the jigsaw anemones pushing up today, and that started me thinking about all those tulips I have planted the past two years with such meagre results. Are any of them there under the ground, thinking of making amends for their failure to function? Tulips are up in price or I might be tempted to do it some more, though I know their blooming season is so short. A tulip is a tulip for all that, and there is something lacking in a tulipless year. I stand feeling very small and humble before a collection of some seventy seedling tuberous Begonias, all originating from one pod, which I had carefully hand fertilized. The seed parent was a single pink that grew seven feet tall and I dreamed of a giant strain that should bring me much honor and plenty cash. These seedlings are bewilderingly different. Only three are pink and like the parent; the rest are mostly small flowered and yellow shaded, which with their dark mottled foliage shows that the pollen from the six-inch little Pearcei growing at the foot of the tall pink fertilized this latter, and there is one quite double white. However, a number of them are going up in the air and next year may show a small prize in the lottery, but never forget it is a lottery. The double white is accounted for by there being the blood of our double white Lady Blanche in the seed bearer.

I still have plenty of visitors who seem to think it is only under very favorable conditions and in a much restricted territory that Tuberous Begonias can be grown. They shake their heads dolefully as they look at mine and say, "Of course I cannot grow them." I bring this up to say that I have just had a lady caller who was in Norway this summer, far enough north to have days with only forty-five minutes of night, and there were tuberous Begonias in specimen plants in beds and as decoration in cemeteries, growing luxuriantly. And I continually hear of the wonderful tuberous grown in Alaska. Just consider the close company of these names, Alaska, Butte, Mexico, England, Belgium, Norway, and then try saying, "Oh, I cannot grow that in California."

I have read with much interest the accounts of Peter D. Barnhart's travels in Honolulu, and I feel impelled to cull this from the Florists Exchange: "One day, while walking through a section of this amazing garden (Royal Hawaiian Hotel), I saw a movement of the foliage; supposing it to be caused by a dog or some other animal, I parted the foliage and, to my surprise, there was a man wiggling his way among it, collecting every leaf that was on the decline and had a tendency to mar the beauty of the border." And then we think we take so much care of our gardens.

I hope it is going to rain, though I fear I have put off the present threat by putting under

cover the things that rain might hurt and setting up my rain gauge. This is a dangerous time because a cloudy sky often is made an excuse for neglecting to water. The whole lathhouse should be thoroughly wet down to take advantage of the rains which will very seldom come in sufficient quantity or sufficiently close together to penetrate deeply. I repeat the advice I have given time and time again at this season: If it looks like rain or rains, water; but if it does not, suit yourself.

The first planting of primula and Cineraria should go out this month, if you expect blooms at Christmas, and see that they never get dry.

### THE FLAMING HEART

One of the rare plants recently brought to the attention of the Natural History Plant Department for determination is a peculiar looking genus of striking appearance grown in the lath house of Mr. David Troth of Bird Rock. In general outline it has the features of a brilliant pineapple but I have never seen the pineapple in bloom, nor this strange one in fruit. However, by and large, the Karatas, so-called in South America, has the foliage of a bromeliad, a name given to the group of plants of the Bromelia family, similar to the long pointed prickly leaves of the Century Plant but of a different texture, perhaps not so fleshy. In some ways the leaves are more like those of the Furcraea, a stiff rosette on the ground often with brilliant color bands of red, rose, or cream near the margin. But instead of sending up a tall flower stalk like the Agaves and Furcraeas, the infloresence has the "nesting habit," a glomerate bunch of violet flowers, imbedded in a short stalk that with its floral leaves called bracts is flaming rose, not scarlet, but a unique red rose that extends to some distance out on the foliage, mottling around the "flaming heart," a fine mixture of red with the green of the leaves.

These leaves taper to a long slender point and have slender prickles along the margin. The Karatas has several botanical names that we speak of as synonyms; it is an air plaint as is the orchid, drawing its nourishment in the wild state from another plant as a parasite or from a supporting host. Its leaves are sometimes smooth-edged and often spiny.

In the lath house it requires the treatment of Bilbergia and at one time was called Bilbergia cerolinae, but is closely related to the pineapple, also a bromeliad. The preferred name at present is Aregelia carolinae, a scientist by the name of Regel having covered a few more points than previous authors. Under the name of Karatas carolinae it was brought into garden stock in San Diego from Chile, although for reasons it may have originated in Western Brazil. We owe to Mr. Decker of 3345 Thirtieth street its entry among rare plants of this region.

FIDELLA G. WOODCOCK.

### PLANTS FOR THE ROCK GARDEN

**By R. Alice Drought**

Plants for the rock garden deserve as careful attention in their selection as plants for the perennial border. Although the majority of typical rock or Alpine plants blossom in early spring, there are many flowers adaptable to the rock garden which will blossom through the hot, dry months of summer well into the first cooling days of autumn. If the rock garden is to hold its place in the home grounds as a definite part of the garden scheme, then it must be made more interesting during the summer season. Continuous bloom is no more impossible in the rock garden than in the perennial border.

Following close upon the bulbs—which are planted the previous fall for bloom when the snows are melting—is the pasqueflower, anemone pulsatilla. It braves the cold winds of March and early April, and is perhaps the first of the nonbulbous plants to bloom. It will stand full exposure and a poor gravelly soil.

The next group of plants to deserve special attention includes the moss pinks. They hug the ground quite closely, and produce a riot of color. Most colorful of them is the phlox subulata rosea, while the white form (variety alba) provides a striking contrast and forms the transition so necesasry between certain plants to prevent clashing of colors. For those who prefer a dark centered pink variety there is phlox amoena, while the phlox subulata lilacina should satisfy those who like the lavender tints of phlox. All of the moss pinks thrive best in full sun. They may be planted between stepping stones leading to, or into, the rock garden, and they are effective when planted between the ledges of a rock wall.

#### Combines Well With Rock Cress

Goldentuft (alyssum saxatile compactum) is likewise adaptable to planting in a rock wall, but it is equally effective in masses in the rock garden wherein boulders predominate. The golden-tuft is sulphur yellow in color, with silvery foliage. It combines well with rock cress (arabis alpina).

Somewhat overlapping these early blooming plants, but continuing their flowering to the end of May and into June, are the speedwells or veronicas. Veronica repens is a creeping plant forming a glossy green mat, covered with racemes of light blue-tinged flowers. It is good for covering bare spots, although it prefers a moist soil. The rock speedwell or veronica rupestris is likewise a trailing plant excellent for rock work. It, too, forms a thick mat, with more conspicuous flowers of sapphire blue.

The dwarf Canadian primrose (primula mistassinica) also blossoms in May and June. It is a delicate little plant, having few flowers but bright green leaves. It thrives best if given a moist and half-shady place.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

Dwarf crested iris (iris cristata) deserves a sunny place nestled among the rocks. It is a tiny species with delicately marked flowers of soft lavender blue, with orange crest. It spreads quite rapidly, and for that reason should be carefully watched and divided as soon as it begins to overrun its neighbors.

Other spring flowering plants especially suited for the rock garden are the pinks (dianthus); particularly the cheddar pink or dianthus caesius. The maiden pink (dianthus deltoides) bears solitary crimson-centered flowers, while the foliage forms a dense carpet. This plant comes to us from Japan and western Europe.

Coral bells (heuchera sanguinea) are native to various sections of the United States, growing wild on hillsides and rocky slopes. They are splendid transition plants, for they carry spring blossoms into the summer and summer-flowering plants. The coral bells will thrive in half shade, growing from 10 to 18 inches in height and bearing flowers on delicate stems above a clump of pale green leaves.

### The Harebells

The harebells (campanulas) form an interesting summer group. The bluebells of Scotland (campanula rotundifolia) are especially suited for crevices, their blue-tinted bell-flowers drooping on delicate wiry stems. The Carpathian harebell (campanula carpatica) in white and tints of violet, flowers freely from June to late August.

Moneywort or creeping Jenny (lysimachia nummularia) introduces a note of yellow. It is a creeping plant, flowering in June and July, but bears careful watching as it grows rapidly and soon covers considerable area. It will thrive in either half-shade or full sun, and is quite at home with its roots in between ledges of rock.

Even the catmint (nepeta mussini) finds a home in the rock garden. It is a trailing plant preferring full sunlight, with lavender flowers which are continuous from July almost to frost.

Other summer flowering plants adapted to rock gardening include the closed gentian (gentiana Andrewsii), thymes (thymus, in variety); rockfoils or saxifrages (saxifraga, in variety); violas, especially the viola Jersey Gem, and stonecrops or sedums. The varieties of sedum are numerous, and in selecting them, one must be guided largely by his own choice, Goldmoss (sedum acre) is one of the most popular, and may be used to advantage among stepping stones as it will stand considerable abuse. It is aggressive and needs watching to keep it from overrunning the garden.

Sedum Kamtschaticum, like sedum acre, has starry yellow flowers, though it blossoms in August instead of in June when the goldmoss is in its glory. Kamtschaticum is a good carpeter, hugging the ground rather closely. It has the added advantage of being russet colored in the fall of the year, while sedum stahlii is the color of iron rust, mixed with a vivid grass green. Sedum ewersi, coming to us from Turkestan, is likewise colorful in the fall, its rose-colored flowers coming on when further bloom in the rock garden is despaired of. Siebold stonecrop (s. sieboldi) a Japanese species, has thick, succulent pink-edged leaves, but otherwise resembles ewers stonecrop. It, also, flowers in the fall.

Saxifrage tunicflower (tunica saxifraga) is a good supplement to the sedums. It has quantities of tiny flowers varying from pale to dark pink, and blossoms until frost.

This by no means exhausts the list of rock garden or Alpine palnts. It is wise for the beginner to start out with a few varieties and to build up a collection as his familiarity with them increases. A few varieties, well chosen, and planted in masses of rhythmic sequence, will more readily produce an effect of unity and of harmony than will a more varied and less studied group of plants. Not every rock plant will grow in every rock garden. Choice of plants to some extent is dependent upon site; that is, factors of soil, drainage, exposure and sunlight. Most of those named herein (except the saxifrages, which sometimes require winter protection where they are not covered with snow) are quite general in their adaptation and hardiness.

---

### SEEDLING FUCHSIAS

Fuchsias also are now seeding—not all kinds, but I think fully half the varieties are faithfully trying to perpetuate their kind. But nature refuses to always walk in old paths, and new Fuchsias are constantly coming from seedlings. We cannot personally claim even an attempt at raising seedlings, but friends from the Society at Berkeley have had splendid results.

Wash the seed pod on a piece of muslin, dry, then wash away the pulp. Then if the seed comes to life one must of course wait a year to find out if there is a new variety among his plants. It appeals to most people that some other enthusiast is welcome to their share of the "wild catting" while they contentedly sit back and buy the new varieties for maybe a quarter.

I lately tried seed of the Transvaal Daisy; they came up in three days, but these also were fresh from my own plants. And incidentally, let us say right here that the theory of these seed not germinating unless planted horizontally and right end up, is pure nonsense. Plant up, or down, or sideways, only do not cover deeply, and keep them always moist.

MRS. W. S. THOMAS.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

### SOME WILD LILACS FROM CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

The horticulturists of San Diego, running true to form, have been instrumental in introducing and growing the beautiful native Ceanothus Cyaneus. The CALIFORNIA GARDEN has given it much needed publicity. This glorious wild lilac having opened the way, some others of this interesting clan herewith give account of themselves.

C. foliosus from the northern coast ranges is most accommodating. Under cultivation (which in this case means only an occasional watering), even at sea level, it gives several crops of bloom each year and becomes the most delightful of shrubs. It is a bush of three feet high, much branched and spreading. The leaves are small and crinkled, dark green and glistening. The bloom, a vivid blue.

C. papillosus from the Santa Cruz and Santa Lucia mountains, has one serious weakness. It easily becomes a prey to mealy bug and in order to keep healthy plants and reap the worth while reward of beautiful bloom, one must ever be ready with the spray pump. C. papillosus forms an open spreading shrub and in its native habitat reaches a height of six feet. The leaves are narrow, dull green and conspicuously papillate and the flowers as intense a blue as those of C. folliosus, although more variable in their shades.

C. dentatus is a gem from the coast of Central California. It is low and spreading, never with us becoming taller than one foot. The leaves are light green and shining, narrow and very small, blunt (almost square) at the ends, and revolute. The flowers are bright blue. There are many varieties of C. dentatus, all of which are desirable.

C. jepsonii from the mountain slopes of Central California, is a rigid bush with attractive little holly-like leaves and flowers that are usually white but sometimes light blue. The variety purpurea, from Napa county, has larger leaves and big purple-blue blossoms. Both of these ceanothi can stand more heat than the "wild lilacs" from the coastal regions and are happy in rough stony soil.

To San Diego gardeners, C. rigidus is probably the best known of these ceanothi, for it is found as far south as the Lompoc region. It is very adaptable and makes itself quite at home in the garden, spreading wide its intricate branches and forming an attractive three-foot shrub thickly covered with small, leathery, blunt little wedge-shaped leaves. The color of the flowers varies a great deal. The type is a lilac shade, but lavenders and blue-purples are found and sometimes a pure white form stands out in marked contrast.

All of these ceanothi require good drainage and light soil.

Be it known that the above list in no way covers all of the desirable members of this large and appealing genus. There are the many high montane species, there is the delightful little C. prostratus; and C. traskii and C. insularis of the islands. This note brings the readers of CALIFORNIA GARDEN a closer acquaintance with only a few of the northern growing species which await invitation to our gardens. LESTER ROWNTREE.

---

### A FEW IRIS NOTES

Evidently the general rule, scant watering for German Iris, does not hold good in San Diego. Reports of successful flowering show that abundant water was given and applying that experience in my own garden is producing fine husky growth. I have visions of good blooms for the Spring show. Let us hope that all Iris enthusiasts will keep that event in mind and study the rules of entry so that out next Iris exhibit will be perfect.

You can always depend upon Spanish or Dutch Iris to do well in this climate but be sure to watch for yellow stripe and as soon as it appears destroy every bit of bulb and leaf. Plant these lovely Iris in rotation and have blooms from February to June.

There is no thrill like that of watching a rare and uncertain plant come into bloom. Perhaps the Regelia and Oncocyclus Iris will add that spice to your garden. Plainting can be made until November. When I saw pictures of acres, in Prof. Wight's Butte county Iris farm, blooming with hundreds of rows of Suisiana, Charon, Juno, Mars and all of the other gods and goddesses, my spirit was somewhat dampened, but the joy of picking one or two Suisianas in my own garden plot determined me to plant again this fall.

C. B. T.

---

### OCTOBER WEATHER IN SAN DIEGO

**Dean Blake**

With October comes a noticeable decrease in the number of cloudy nights and mornings, and lower nocturnal temperatures prevail. The days have a remarkable clemency, and the maximum temperature hovers around 70 degrees as a rule. Temperatures of 90 degrees or over occasionally occur during the period of so-called "desert winds," those dynamically heated winds that visit Southern California on the average of three or four times each fall.

The season is not advanced enough for heavy rainstorms, but an occasional "tramp storm" from the south drenches the county. Strong winds have never been recorded. With the decrease in humidity that usually takes place during the month comes greater zest, and outdoor activities increases.

## WHY IT PAYS TO BEAUTIFY THE HOME

**The Inspiring Address of Chesla C. Sherlock, Managing Editor, "Ladies' Home Journal," Before the Ohio State Nurserymen's Association Meeting in Columbus in January.**

We read in an Old Book that man and woman first found themselves in a garden and that they called it Paradise. Soon they found themselves dispossessed and outside the gate of that little Paradise. We are not clear as to just what happened. Perhaps they had been reading the nursery catalogue and longed for a larger place "out on the edge of town" where they could make a bigger and better garden.

Indeed, I have always thought that there was nothing strange in the fact that they did find themselves dispossessed. I have never known a gardener—and I am sure that you haven't—who was satisfied with the garden where he had nothing whatever to do with its creation.

We are all creators, laboring in the divine workshop. The creative instinct, the divine urge is within all of us, and the most dissatisfied people in this world are those who do not have the opportunity or the means to give expression to that instinct.

"Why does it pay to beautify our homes?" I have been asked. It seems to me that, first of all, it pays us back Paradise. All the sages of antiquity and all the wisdom that this world has produced has been unable to visualize any Paradise more complete than that represented by the garden.

Sometimes I fancy I see the footprints of Divinity in my garden. Who can walk down the garden path, however tiny, at eventide when the blush of Roses is spilling over the fence, or the cathedral spires of Delphinium stand in hushed silence, or catch the silent flit of humming birds' wings, or hear the last sweet notes of some robin's evening roundelay without knowing this? It is all very wonderful and fine and worth while to know that the divine touch comes to all of us, however lowly we may be, if we have but "eyes to see and ears to hear."

I sometimes fancy the most enjoyable hours in my garden were the moonlit ones, often far into the night, when I sat on the edge of the Lily pool with friends while we talked about nothing much in particular. All around there was the throb and purr of life, of creation quietly pushing toward fulfillment. The great sense of comfort all of us take in the garden is in a garden we have made ourselves and have given something of ourselves to.

You may be casually interested in the garden that money has bought, but no garden is really your own except the garden you have built yourself. Then every bush and shrub and tree, every square foot of that garden is your own because it brings back memories that only you can resurrect.

Why does it pay to beautify your home? Civilization has come to be a struggle between man on the one hand and Nature on the other to preserve the whole natural balance. Man ravishes the forest, pollutes the streams, drains the swamps, rips open the bowels of the earth, even fills the very air we breathe with fumes and belching smoke until it is little wonder that Nature often gives up the struggle entirely.

We seem instinctively to recognize this fact ourselves when we refer to certain parts of the world as being "old." A moments' reflection should convince us that one part of the world is as old as another. The part we call old is merely the part that man has despoiled and ravished.

Beauty rules our lives as surely as the wind rules the waves. Witness how we are attracted by the beauty of face or form. The whole colorful panorama of flowers is gotten up for a single purpose—to attract the bees and insects, or man himself, to accomplish Nature's work. Wherever it is necessary for Nature to depend upon the active agency of the insect world or upon mankind to accomplish her purpose we find that she uses colors lavishly; where she depends upon the motion of wind or the motion of water or any other inanimate agency to pollinate her flowers we find that they are utterly devoid of color or beauty, even microscopic in size. Take the Gladiolus as an example—with a great splotch of color on the lower petal which leads right into the nectar like Nature's signboard pointing the way to the insect.

Beauty rules our lives as surely as the wind rules the waves. Consider the gravel pit, that stark sunken cheek on the face of Nature, how it fills with water and becomes a laughing dimple, a pool that gleams with beauty!

How can we bring back to ourselves and to our loved ones those sights and those hours of contentment which we have ever in view as Paradise, except in our own dooryard gardens?

It seems to me that the prophet on the hills of old Judea more than two thousand years ago gave us the formula and proved the point to us. He was discussing the coming of the millennium, and the world has missed the point entirely, seeming to feel that he was speaking of the universal millennium while I hold that he talked strictly of an individual and personal millennium. You remember the elements of that millennium. They are, first: "They shall accept the law of God," in other words adjust themselves to better living; second, "They shall learn war no more;" third, "they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks;" and fourth (and I con-

sider this the greatest climax in all Old Testament literature, for, mind you, it was the greatest picture that this prophet could paint of the ultimate of happiness), "They shall sit, every man under his own vine and under his own Fig tree, and none shall make them afraid."

I submit, ladies and gentlemen, that it pays to beautify the home because it pays us back Paradise.—M. C. K. in the Florists' Exchange.

---

**HOW TO GROW ROSES**
**By Robert Pyle, J. Horace McFarland and G. A. Stevens**

(The MacMillan Co., 1930, $2.00)

So many of the small garden manuals lately appearing are obvious pot-boilers, it becomes increasingly difficult for a reviewer to wax enthusiastic over them. But here we have a volume of a different order, the carefully considered product of long experience and study on the part of its very competent trio of authors, full of meat, well arranged, well written, even not without its touches of gentle humor, beautifully printed, and so superbly and copiously illustrated that one marvels how the publishers ever accomplished so much for the modest price asked. For one thing it is stated that the authors generously sacrificed their royalties to the cause.

Supposed to be a re-edition of a little book with which in its many printings we have long been familiar, an entirely new volume has in fact resulted. The chapter-heads are all How's—How to Use Roses, How to Plant Roses, How to Care for Roses, How to Select Roses, and so on. Our corner of the country differs considerably in its exigencies of garden practice from all the other corners, yet there is comparatively little here set forth which for use requires radical amendment to become usable. Every rose lover in our area will reap pleasure and profit by adding this volume to his personal book shelf, and certainly not one of our libraries should be without it.

S. S. B.

---

**GARDEN BOOKS IN DISPLAY WINDOW OF BUSINESS DEPT. OF PUBLIC LIBRARY, SEPTEMBER 27 TO OCTOBER 4**

Book of Water Gardening—Bisset.
Flower and Vase—Lamplugh.
Flowers for Every Occasion—Tipton.
Garden Cinderellas—Fox.
Garden Ornaments—Northend.
Gardens All the Year—Harrison.
Landscaping the Home Grounds—Ramsey.
Rock Garden Primer—Thornton.
Rose in America—McFarland.
Patio Gardens—Fox.
Water Gardens and Goldfish—Sawyer.
Wild Flowers and Ferns—Durand.

RAINFORD FLOWER SHOP

Cut Flowers
Floral Designs

*1115 Fourth Street* *San Diego*

---

**ORCHIDS IN SINGAPORE**
**By Major Geo. B. Bowers**

In America, the Orchid is thought of as a hothouse plant or as an epiphyte in its tropic jungle home, never as a front-yard decoration as in that wonder city, Singapore, of the southeast tip of Asia. There the Orchid is grown out-of-doors in beds of mulch on the ground. In Singapore, one may grow Orchids in the front yard as easily as Roses in the States, perhaps with even less effort.

The Vanda Agnes Joachim is the favorite for garden culture in Singapore. It is a hybrid of the Vandsteres and Vanda Hookeriana. Its colors are lavender and purple.

Orchid blossoms in Singapore retail in the streets at thirty cents per dozen. They may be purchased at wholesale for a penny each. Many wealthy residents have large plots of Orchids for lawn decorations where their friends may pick as many as they please.

Because Orchids are so common, they are seldom used for personal adornment. Milady going to the opera prefers Roses, quite as rare in Singapore as are Orchids in New York flower shops. Perhaps it is only human that one should prize most highly the one more rare in the land in which one lives.

## HOW DESERT CREATURES DRINK

**By Major Geo. A. Bowers**

Most of us think of the desert as a dry, sandy waste without animal or vegetable life. This is only partially true, for the sands, although without vegetation, teem with animal life. Hundreds of desert miles are without springs and are permanently dry except for night dews and an occasional shower. The question, therefore, naturally arises, where do the denizens of the desert find water during the summer months, when the sun's rays wither all they touch? At such times, many desert creatures, such as squirrels and mice, estivate or remain dormant during the summer, just as animals of cold regions hibernate in winter.

But, after those animals have commenced their summer sleep, many more remain active —the horned toad, the long-tailed lizard, and other types of desert reptiles. Snakes and the Gila monster do not drink water in the usual way; they soak in it. The Gila moster, said to be a descendant of the mighty Diplodocus of prehistoric fame, does not drink; its insect food gives it sufficient water. The same may be said of many other reptiles.

All desert creatures need water. Some appear to have no means of obtaining that needed supply, depending solely upon water found by their neighbors who are equipped with strong beaks, or clams, and teeth. In the Arizona desert lives the Gila woodpecker, resembling the flicker of the Ohio valley. This bird is a self-appointed well-digger for the helpless creatures of the Arizona desert where the giant Suhuaro cactus grows. A Suhuaro looks like a poor tree with rows of short thorns. It sometimes grows to be seventy feet high. To dig a well the woodpecker catches its toes in a row of thorns, and bracing its tail, bores into the soft flesh and skeleton of the plant. The boring is a smeary task, yet the woodpecker digs hole after hole. Just why it makes so many holes, no one seems to know, but we do know who benefit—bees, wasps, mice, lizards, wrens, and humming-birds.

Wells in the Suhuaro soon go dry. The sap carries a resinous substance that quickly hardens when exposed to the air. Thus protected, the wound made by the well-digger heals quickly, and the woodpecker's well becomes a miniature gourd-shaped cave with hard, waterproof walls and floor. Such caves may become the home of the tiny elf owl or the nesting-places of the woodpeckers themselves.

Finally, after the giant Suhuaro has fallen and decayed, the woodpecker holes are made to serve yet another purpose. Indians along the edge of the desert gather the shells that once were nests, and use them as cups, bowls, and dippers, more durable than any they might fashion of clay.

The Gila woodpecker is useful in yet another way; it cheers the tired desert traveler. What desert wanderer has not been heartened after watching a happy well-digger adding another well to the millions already made by his tribe? For a single Suhuaro may have hundreds of wells and nests.

The desert has yet another source of water frequently used as an emergency drink by travelers. It is the Echino cactus, commonly called Barrel Cactus. The water within its great cylinder is easily available to the thirsty traveler with a large knife or ax to remove the head of the plant. Then, by crushing and squeezing the inner pulp, a quart or more of water may be obtained in a few minutes, and a desert traveler may quench his thirst after his canteen is dry.

It is said that this unique desert fountain was the principal water supply of Indian tribes that once roamed the desert of the Southwest, and had it been known to the white man, many desert tragedies of the past might have been averted.

Desert creatures equipped with strong teeth frequently tap the Barrel Cactus. Rarely one finds a plant without wounds that were completely covered by exuding gum that quickly stops the flow of the precious sap.

---

## LIMING THE SOIL

A study of necessary data indicates that if leaching occurs under normal field conditions at a comparable rate, the soil-regulating base, calcium, is lost rather rapidly. As this calcium is removed in the drainage water, there remains a constantly increasing amount of insoluble acid clay material in the soil. This clay, formerly made sweet and favorable to the growth of plants by its combination with calcium, is now sour and a much less favorable medium for the growth of many agricultural crops. The first loss of calcium produces only a mild effect, and only the most sensitive crops may show injury, but in time the sour condition develops to so marked a degree that many farm crops may be injured by the condition. The soil is then badly in need of lime to furnish a new supply of calcium to combine with the acid clay and thus render it again sweet and wholesome for the growth of farm crops.

### Where Acid Soils Are Found

Sour soils may be found in any section where rainfall is sufficient to produce appreciable leaching. As rainfall increases, leaching to remove bases likewise increases and roughly increases in proportion with increased rainfall.

There is, however, a great variation in the degree of acidity developed in any locality, due to the nature of the soil itself and to the general farm practice. Nature made some soils more deficient in calcium (the element sup-

plied when limestone is added) than others. Some farmers likewise use a better system of farming to prevent leaching losses. Some farmers return more calcium to the soil in the form of crop residues than others. All crops remove calcium from the soil, the legumes an especially large amount. Each ton of alfalfa grown removes the equivalent of about 100 pounds of limestone. The constant sale of alfalfa hay would therefore exhaust the calcium of the soil, while feeding and return of the manure to the soil would remove relatively little. The use of certain commercial fertilizers, such as superphosphate, constantly renews the supply of calcium in the soil, though "super" has no neutralizing value. Other fertilizers, such as ammonium sulphate, may gradually increase the acidity of the soil. (It should not be inferred, however, that ammonium sulphate is not a suitable fertilizer.) In general, any farm practice which exhausts fertility increases the need for lime, and the poorest soils are most in need of liming.

It is believed by many also that legumes do best on soil well supplied with lime because the legume organism demands a sweet soil. On sour soils the organism is either absent or is so weakened that it fails to inoculate the roots of the plants, and under such conditions the legume, like grasses or other non-legumes, must obtain nitrogen directly from the soil. The plant then suffers from nitrogen starvation and makes only a sickly yellow growth, or finally dies.

Acidity may affect the availability of other nutrients than calcium. Phosphate, especially, may be rendered insoluble and unavailable on acid soils. This is probably the result of phosphate precipitation by iron and aluminum, which are often brought into solution rather profusely by the development of high acidity.

In general, all nutrients are rendered less available to those crops which are appreciably retarded by the acid condition. The weakened plant is less able to take up and assimilate such nutrients as are in solution, due to the diminished root system and generally retarded functions of the plant.—Western Florist.

---

### Campus Landscape Work to be Undertaken by Girl Students at School

Instruction in novel and interesting work in gardening is to be given this year at the Girls' Collegiate School in Glendora.

"In California," says the principal, Miss Carol Mills, "we live so much out doors, it is important for a girl to know how to make the outdoors of her home charming as well as indoors. To this end landscape work on the already lovely campus will be done by the girl students under the direction of Frances Duncan, who is well known as a writer of garden articles and as an expert maker of home gardens and landscape designing."

The greater part of the course to be given will be along the lines of the delightful gardening taught at the Women's Horticultural College at Swanley, England, where the students prune the roses and make little cottage gardens of their own planning.

The Girls' Collegiate is beautifully situated high in the hills. Orange groves on one side come close and many types of gardening will be possible. The campus has a lovely little garden theater and the extension of garden interest has come naturally.

Mrs. Duncan has had wide experience in garden instruction work. She is known to Easterners as the author of several garden books. She was at one time garden editor of the Ladies' Home Journal, later of the Delineator, and she designed the playground for the Montessori School in New York. She planned the charming garden in connection with Mrs. Thompson Webb's Country Day School at Claremont, where outdoor classrooms are an attractive feature.

---

### THE HOME GARDENER'S PRONOUNCING DICTIONARY

The editor has received from Alfred C. Hottes, associate editor of "Better Homes and Gardens," a copy of a new dictionary under the title of this heading. It is primarily a reference handbook for the amateur but will be welcomed by every botanist, professional nurseryman and gardener as well. In it are listed alphabetically eighty-three pages of plant names. Scientific, common and local names are included so that no longer will there be any excuse for the universal confusion among American amateur gardeners as to the correct names of common garden plants. While it is not as complete as "Standardized Plant Names" published by the American Joint Committee on Horticultural Nomenclature, its value to the amateur lies to a great extent in its simplicity or elementary classification of plant names. Even an experienced botanist is often baffled by the local names some plants acquire. The nominal cost, fifty cents, should insure it a place in every gardener's library. Ten copies may be obtained for three dollars and fifty cents if sent to one address. Address the Meredith Publishing Co., Des Moines, Iowa.

---

**GARDENER,** middle aged man, with long experience at gardening in all its branches, reliable, well recommended, desires position. Address, Care Miss K. O. Sessions Nursery, Pacific Beach, Main 5652 or Pacific Beach 607.

Now Is the Time to Plant Winter-Blooming Sweet Peas.

INSECTICIDES

See us for Insecticides and Spray Equipment. A Complete Line.

**DUNNING-MILLAR, INC.**

SEEDS - BIRDS - SUPPLIES - ACCESSORIES

909 6th St. PHONE, FRANKLIN 5387 624 E St.

McKELVEY'S

**ELITE PRINTING CO.**

Commercial Printing

Phone Main 3793 - 851-853 Second St., San Diego

MEMBERS OF THE FLORAL ASSOCIATION

By patronizing the advertisers in the magazine you are helping a good cause.

IN
CORONADO
ONLY

# EXCLUSIVE

**In gift buying it isn't so much the price you pay, as it is the distinctive quality you get.**

## Harold A. Taylor

1154 Orange Ave. CORONADO Hotel del Coronado

---

Berried Shrubs, Streptosolen and Solanum Rantonetti for color, 35 and 50 cents.

### ONE TREE IN EVERY GARDEN!

An Oak if there is room or an Incense Cedar which is not spreading but a fine green, with fragrant foliage, 75c, $1.25 and $3.50.

Lonicera confusa, 35c, 50c, 75c, the very best of yellow evergreen honeysuckles.

Lonicera Hilderbrandiana, the giant of honeysuckles, $2.50, flowers 7 inches long and very fragrant; also evergreen.

**Miss. K. O. SESSIONS**
2590 GRAND AVENUE,
PACIFIC BEACH

Phones:
MAIN 5652—Pacific Beach 607

---

### FOR THESE GETTING-COLDER DAYS ... an ELECTRIC HEATER

It's still too warm, of course, to turn on the furnace. but it's certainly a bit too chilly for comfort. So why not an Electric Heater to turn those cold corners into cozy ones? Gives out a warm and friendly glow the moment you plug it in, is easily moved from room to room, safe, clean and smokeless.

You can enjoy instant warmth whenever and wherever you want with an electric heater.

**SAN DIEGO CONSOLIDATED GAS & ELECTRIC CO.**

BYLLESBY
SAN DIEGO CONSOLIDATED GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY
PIONEERS IN PUBLIC SERVICE

"RED SEAL WIRING FOR ELECTRICAL SATISFACTION"